

Oaks Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

# Oaks Notes



## Acorns on the Ground

### Hope For 2009

As I am writing this it is January 7 and one week of 2009 has passed. The rest of the year is unknown to us but it is known only by God. We cannot see what lies ahead but God can.

God knows the fullness of our lives and God has a plan for our lives. From the present moment of life on into the future God has a plan. He can see the where and the why of our circumstances. He knows where we are because God loves us and cares for us.

God's plans are purposeful. They are plans for goodness and not bad. God wants the best for us and he works to bring about the best for our lives. We can only see our lives from where we are, but God sees the complete picture. If we could see the complete picture of our lives we would see how God's plan was fulfilled.

God has plans for our future. Ultimately we know the fulfillment of our future will be when we go to be with God in Heaven. There we will experience no sorrow and no pain. There all our tears will be wiped away. Knowing that one of these days Christ will

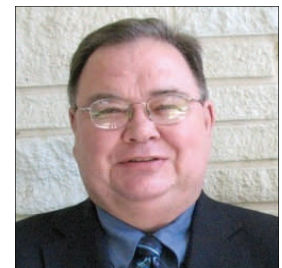
return for us gives us hope for the living of each day. This fact reminds us that God provides for us not only in this present life but throughout all eternity.

As we continue through the rest of 2009 we can do so with peace of mind. Oh yes, there will be days when we wonder why we are having to experience a certain situation. Why something is happening that may not be a time of Happiness but a time of sorrow. But we can rest assured that as individuals and as a total church, God is with us. "We know that, ALL things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

So let's make this year a great year. Let's always remember that God is with us and that God loves us.

I hope to see you in church.

Reverend Randy Burke



#### Inside this issue:

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Acorns on the Ground | 1 |
| Calendar /Reminders  | 2 |
| A Question           | 3 |
| Attendance           |   |
| Treasurer Report     |   |
| Christmas Pictures   | 4 |
| Thank You Notes      | 5 |
| Announcements        |   |
| Board Happenings     | 6 |

# Happy New Year!

## OAKS CHRISTIAN CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2009



## January Birthdays

Helen Woodward	2
Evalyn Lineberger	4
Verna Odena	5
Dorene Drake	6
Denise Huey	7
Jared Davis	10
Oliver Harrison	14
Alissa Hursman	14
Hunter Lemay	15
Barb Scantlin	16
Kyle Cox	17
Charles Sullivan	17
Anne Hudson	23
Verna Lamb	23
Agnes Pratt	23
Bill Scantlin	24
Betty Kasper	25
Sonja Davis	26
Barbara Green	26
Evalyn Ratcliff	30



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please let the Church Office know.

## And January Anniversaries

Bob and Sara Simons	7
Andreas and Laura Aya	8

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5	6	7	1 1	2	3
Bread Sunday Board Mtg. Continental Assembly 4	5	Advent Ends CWF-Planning 10:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal 7	Newsletter 8	9	10 Second Saturday Each Month CMF - Larry Scruggs, Chair 12:00 Noon
11 Board Meeting Scrap booking - Crafting 11	12	13 CWF Visitation 11:00 a.m.	14 Choir Rehearsal. 14	15 Rev. Randy Burke's Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	16	17
18 Diaconate Meeting after Church	19 19	20 CWF Love Meals 10:00 a.m.	21 Choir Rehearsal. 21	22 Rev. Randy Burke's Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	23	24 Church Wide Community Meeting 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
25 Scrap booking - Crafting 25	26	27 CWF General Meeting 6:00 p.m.	28 Choir Rehearsal 28	29 Rev. Randy Burke's Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	30	31

If you have something for the calendar, please let the Church Office know.

## Sunday School and Worship services

Sunday School and morning worship will take place as usual every Sunday in January. Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday morning worship at 10:45 a.m.



## A Note from Verna Lamb

"Scrap booking/Craft Day" in Kirchner Hall January 11 and January 25, 2009.

**Church Office** - The Church Office is open Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you have a pastoral emergency call the pastor's cell number.



**Greeters and Birthday Cakes are still needed. Please see Carole Green to sign up.**



## PLEASE NOTE:

Rosanne Henderson's new address:

17323 Shrub Oak Drive  
Humble, Texas 77396



Pastor Randy Burke's Phone #'s  
832.729.1598 - Cell  
713.983.0717 - Home

**SING!**  
Jesus Loves You!



Paid position available in January 2009 - very important!  
I need reliable driver to take me to appointments. Average - 3 a month. Afternoons. Pay: Hourly plus gasoline allowance. Negotiable. Senior Citizen, in wheelchair. **Call Mrs. Pitts at 713-682-3881** if interested.

## Thank You Notes and Announcements

### Thanks! Thanks! Thanks!

Katherine Smith Elementary School Families had a great Thanksgiving because we reached out with turkeys.

Thanks for caring.

*Bettie Bell*

A thank you letter dated December 11, 2008 was received from Gloria Salazar, Principal and Lisa McNeill, Assistant Principal of Katherine Smith Elementary. She thanked Oaks for our continued support of the Smith Elementary families with our generous donation of 20 turkeys for Thanksgiving and school supplies for their children to start off this school year.



Special Thanks to all who donated Teddy Bears for the Houston Police Department Teddy Bear Project.

Thanks to you and Manager, Ted Oliver from Wal-Mart on 290 and Tidwell. We were able to donate 124 Teddy Bears to Sergeant Frank Escobedo, Houston Police Department, North Division, Community Service Offices.

Oaks is reaching out to our Community. Thanks.  
*Outreach Team*

### Worship Chair - Katie Spencer

Hello Everyone! As I am leaving Worship Chair this year I would like to take this time to thank everyone who helped me through out the year. There are many people who helped out in different areas, and I truly appreciate your time and efforts to make some wonderful events happen. I really enjoyed this passed year celebrating The Continental Assembly Sunday's, All Saints day and Veterans Day with all of you and every Sunday with you as well.

Everyone from the youth all the way up helped out, and that is what makes our church so special as we are a family. I wish you all a FABULOUS 2009. Happy New Year! Love, *Katie Spencer*

### Thank You!

To All of those at Oaks that sent me letters while I was on my Walk to Emmaus a big thank you. It was a life changing experience for me. I always knew God was there for me but now I have no doubts. Thanks again for supporting me in this effort. *Ruth Conover*



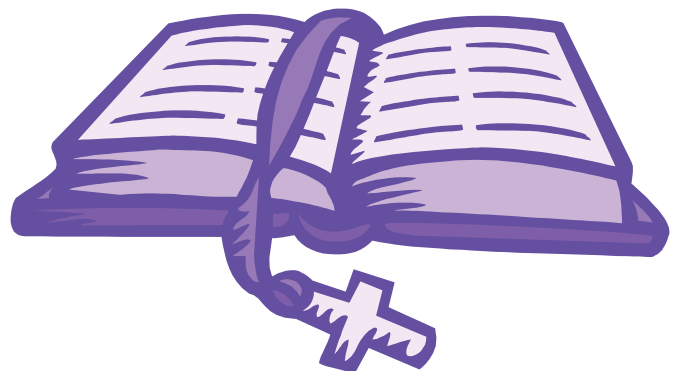
Wonderful news...the flag is flying again thanks to the Houston Fire Department Station 31 Company C and Captain "O" Ogramowitz. Thank you!

### Stewardship Campaign - Sara Simons Reminder:

If you submitted a Giving Pledge card during our Stewardship Campaign, your offering envelope boxes are labeled and ready for pick up in the Narthex. We have ordered extra boxes and they are available on a first come, first served basis, whether you wish to make a pledge or not. Please contact Sara Simons at 713.983.8697 or [sara.c.simons@gmail.com](mailto:sara.c.simons@gmail.com) if you are interested.

### Reverend Randy Burke's Bible Study

Bible study will start January 15, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. The study will be one taught by Ray Vander Laan. The study will consist of videos and then discussion of the material presented. Study books are \$8.00. Please let Pastor Randy know if you would like to purchase one.



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## Oaks Christian Church

*Bound Together in Love*



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
FOR MANNA'S  
THRIFT SHOP**

**For more information  
Contact  
(713) 686-6440  
Please note: Web site  
is down.**

### Board Happenings - Bill Scantlin, Board Chair

Here are the highlights from the Board meeting held on Sunday December 7, 2008.

- \* Approved Kirchner Scholarship wording change in By-Laws
- \* Approved transfer of various line item amounts from the Designated Fund to the Operating Fund to help pay current operating expenditures
- \* Approved payment of membership dues to Heights Chamber of Commerce for 2009
- \* Received and accepted the resignation of Chris and Verna Lamb from their 2009 Board positions of Vice Chair, Evangelism Chair, Pastoral Relations Chair and Christian Education Chair

**Friendly Reminder:** There will be a Board meeting immediately following Church services on Sunday January 11, 2009. Thank you.